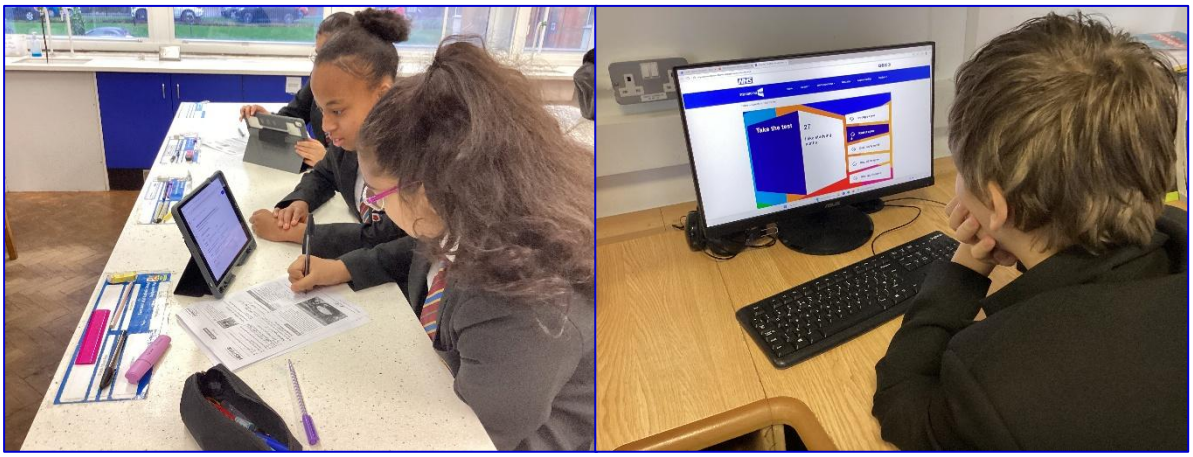
Saint John Wall Catholic School
A Catholic School For All

Mission Statement
'To educate each and every unique child in our care to hear and respond to what God calls them to be'



Homework Policy 2026 - 2027

"Start children off on the way they should go,
and even when they are old they will not turn from it."
Proverbs 22:6-15 (NIV)

Introduction

In order to realise our Mission statement 'to educate each and every unique child in our care to hear and respond to what God calls them to be' and to offer the highest quality of teaching and learning; Saint John Wall Catholic School has a Homework policy that is mindful of the Catholic nature of the school, its continued pursuit of excellence and the protection of pupils' education in all areas of school life. This policy is also mindful of the expectations placed on all teachers in the National Teacher Standards and aims to provide clear parameters so that teacher '*set homework and plan other out-of-class activities to consolidate and extend the knowledge and understanding pupils have acquired.'*

Key Principles

At Saint John Wall Catholic School, we value the role of homework in educating our pupils. Educational research shows that homework is a vital element in the learning process and supports pupils making accelerated progress. We want homework to support the development of independent learning skills and foster a love for learning.

SJW Values	**Homework Expectations**
Faith-filled & Hopeful: Independent learning will help our pupils to develop resilience and self-confidence in learning.	**Homework will support lesson content enabling teachers to** support pupils that are struggling and push others on.
Attentive & Discerning: We want our pupils to be engaged in seeking, asking, and challenged to learning new knowledge and skills independently.	**Homework will provide extended learning time** for pupils to work at their own pace and get to grips with ideas or develop work/ knowledge further.
Curious & Active: We want our pupils to think for themselves and become lifelong learners.	**Homework will provide opportunities for creativity and choice** for pupils to try out different ideas and where they can choose their preferred response to a task.
Learned & Wise: We want our pupils to know when and how to apply their learning; be able to identify their own strengths and weaknesses and be inspired to discover more about our world.	**Homework will develop the skills required for independent learning.** Pupils are given the opportunity to practice knowledge and skills. Teachers will follow up and support pupils with questions, respond to any difficulties and misconceptions.
Intentional & Prophetic: We want our pupils to achieve a balance in their school life and be an example to others.	**Pupils will be provided with support to complete homework.** The school library is open in the morning, during breaktime, lunchtime and after school (4:00pm closure), as a place for pupils to work quietly. Pupils will have access to computers for online tasks. Parents will be notified if their child is required to attend additional intervention after normal school hours (3:10pm) at Sparx Club.

Pupils will receive a combination of homework which falls into three categories:

a. **Weekly EnMa: English & Maths (Compulsory)**
English and Maths are key subjects and underpins the knowledge and skills required to access other areas of the curriculum. These are the building blocks for future skills, development, and qualifications. English and Maths are often specifically requested for jobs, apprenticeships, further education, degree, and postgraduate courses.

Weekly Maths:

- Year 7 Maths Homework: Sparx (approx. 30 minutes) each week.
- Year 8 to 11 Maths Homework: Sparx (approx. 60 minutes) each week.

Teachers may adapt the nature of the homework required and will be a of a similar duration.

Weekly English:

- Years 7, 8 & 9: Bedrock (approx. 30 minutes/20 points) each week.
  - **Core skills** include:
    - Spellings
    - Punctuation and sentence structure
    - Grammar
    - Tier two Vocabulary
    - Reading skills
  - **Accelerated Reader book**. Pupils read this book during English lessons and are encouraged to read regularly at home (approx. 2-3 weeks to read and change book). After each book has been completed, pupils complete a comprehension test which provides pupils with a reading level and reading age.
- Year 10 & 11: English homework:
  - Weekly quote tests.
  - GCSE Pod- weekly language and literature revision tasks.

b. **Development Homework (Optional)**
In addition to classwork/formal assessments, optional development homework will be set to encourage independent study and foster a love for learning. Subjects will provide a resource menu for independent remote learning, which broadens pupils' curriculum knowledge, and builds cultural capital. Pupils can access a range of homework tasks via the school website (https://sjwcs.sharepoint.com/sites/sjw-developmenthomework) covering topics and skills taught in each subject. Positive Rewards will be used to acknowledge completion.

c. **Examination Homework (Compulsory)**
In preparation for calendared assessments, all pupils will receive Examination Homework, which is compulsory. Pupils will receive resources in a booklet, except for Bucket 3 Performing Arts Music, Drama and Art & Design, where pupils will complete homework in a format commensurate to the curriculum. Pupils will receive homework several weeks prior to their Assessment Week. Tasks are designed to develop revision skills, retrieve prior knowledge, and develop the skills and habits for successful achievement in examinations. The examination booklet should be completed

independently, and teachers will monitor these during lessons. Positive rewards will be used to acknowledge completion.

Link documents:

Education Endowment Foundation
Teaching & Learning Policy
Whole School Literacy & Numeracy Policy
Behaviour Policy

Ratified by Governors: 12/10/2026
Due for renewal: 12/10/2027
(This policy will remain in force beyond the review date if no updates are required)